

59.
Action INCOMING
EUR
Info TEKEGRAM
RMR

SECRET

CONTROL: 3191

CORRECTION ISSUED.

15 32 38 6 P.M. AAL

This Document must be Returned
to the RMR Control File

-2- 1226, DECEMBER 5, NOON FROM MOSCOW-CORRECTED PAGE 2.

SOVIETS WHICH DID NOT CUT OFF THE ESCAPE ROUTE AND THIS
I PRESUME WE COULD NEVER ACCEPT. IT IS, OF COURSE, POSSIBLE
THAT IF WE SHOW SUFFICIENT DETERMINATION AND UNITY,
KHRUSHCHEV WOULD ACCEPT SOME SOLUTION NOT FULLY SATISFACTORY
TO HIM AS A WAY OF BACKING DOWN FROM THE DANGEROUS SITUATION
IN WHICH HE HAS PLACED HIMSELF. IN ANY EVENT I SUGGEST WE
SHOULD BE PREPARED TO PUT FORWARD COUNTER PROPOSALS IF ONLY
TO STRENGTHEN OUR POSITION IN THE EVENT OF A SHOWDOWN AND
TO INCREASE UNITY AMONG THE WESTERN POWERS. AS A FIRST
STEP, HOWEVER, BELIEVE WE SHOULD MAKE STRONG REFUTATION
DISTORTIONS AND LIES IN SOVIET NOTE AND FIRM STATEMENT
OUR INTENTION MAINTAIN OUR RIGHTS BY FORCE IF NECESSARY.
REPLY SHOULD OFFER DISCUSS THE PROBLEM PROVIDED WE HAVE
REASONABLE COUNTER PROPOSALS TO PUT FORWARD.

THOMPSON

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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OFFICE OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
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